

THE WARSAW WEEKLY

Offices: Czachiego 1, Warsaw, Poland, Telephone 273-77.

English Distributors: W. H. Smith & Sons, London

Subscription rates—zl. 3.50 quarterly, zl. 13.00 yearly.
Foreign 4/- or \$1. quarterly, 15/- or \$ 3.75 yearly.

Postal Cheque Account: 29988, Warszawa
Post Office Account: 615 Warszawa

3rd YEAR

WARSAW, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1937

No. 48

The Reality of Facts

The difficult situation of the Polish population of Lithuania is so generally known in Poland as to scarcely call for comment.

Nevertheless we would like to explain that on its side the Polish Government has always given sympathetic consideration to the affairs of the few tens of thousands of Lithuanians, Polish subjects, inhabiting Poland, and that it has always been prepared to attend to their justified cultural and national requirements.

The fact that in the Palatinate of Wilno there were in January 1936, 715 branches of Lithuanian organisations and 446 libraries, 45 schools with 1836 pupils, whilst Lithuanian is taught to 11 thousand children in 177 Polish Primary State schools, and the Lithuanian press has been able to develop; all this is due to the policy of the Polish State, working for the development of Lithuanian national civilisation, for the benefit of its subjects of Lithuanian origin, not desiring that any impassable line of demarcation should exist between the Polish population and the Lithuanian minority in the Palatinate of Wilno. Those Lithuanians who are Polish subjects have never felt the atmosphere of hostility and hate which has been met by the Poles in Lithuania.

The trial of Constantine Staszys, ex-president of the former Lithuanian Committee of Wilno, which has just occurred in the local court has to a great extent shown the kindly policy of Poland towards the loyal and peaceful Lithuanian minority in Wilno which has been exploited and inspired by a group of leaders inspired by Kaunas. The course

of the trial showed clearly the lack of loyalty of these leaders towards the Polish government, and, worse, showed that these acts were not sporadic occurrences, but the logical conclusion of the premeditated activity of the "Union for the Liberation of Wilno" whose centre is situated outside Poland.

The Polish Government is not obliged to take note of the obstinate hostility of the Lithuanian Government towards Poland and of the activities of the Union for the Liberation of Wilno. On the other hand, however, any attempt to extend these activities to the territory of the Polish Republic cannot be tolerated and will be put down severely.

The moderate sentence of the Wilno Tribunal which condemned Staszys to one year's imprisonment and ten thousand Zloty fine should not induce any assumption to the contrary.

Confirming to the accusation of the Public Prosecutor Constantine Staszys was condemned only for breaches of the Foreign Currency Regulations as foreseen by the Presidential Decree of the 26th April 1936. It should not be overlooked that these offences have been committed, that Staszys received large sums from abroad which he paid over to Lithuanians and their organisations in pursuance of aims fixed in Kaunas, the majority of which were of an anti-Polish character.

This trial has shown once again that the enemies of normal relations between Poland and Lithuania are not the masses of the Lithuanian minority of the Palatinate of Wilno, but a few of them acting under foreign order.

P. I. P.

VIENNESE LETTER

By Eugene Hinterhoff

During the absence of the correspondent of "The Warsaw Weekly", who spent his leave under the scorching sun of Africa, Austrian foreign policy was enlivened by numerous journeys of Austrian statesmen to foreign countries.

At the end of October, Chancellor Schuschnigg, making use of an invitation to a hunt, set off to Hungary, and on this occasion came in personal touch with Daranyi, the Prime Minister of Hungary. Formally this journey was taken in order to return a visit paid by Daranyi to Schuschnigg at the latter's summer residence in St. Gilgen in the summer. De facto, this visit under the cloak of a hunt, (which form is especially favoured by Goering who chose St. Hubert as patron of his activities) afforded Chancellor Schuschnigg an opportunity of having a lengthy political discussion before Daranyi's future journey to Berlin.

Normally any political questions have to be discussed within the limits of the Rome Protocols which even foresee periodical conferences. These Protocols, which have, according to the general opinion, become greatly weakened through the completely altered attitude of Italy towards Germany, caused the two small states to have the desire to work together with regard to questions of common policy.

Another important event to report, and one which will be of special interest to readers of "The Warsaw Weekly", was the visit to Warsaw of Dr. Guido Schmidt, the Secretary of State. This journey, also formally a return visit to the Polish Foreign Minister, Colonel Beck, made it possible to strengthen the cultural relations between the two countries. The negotiations carried on by the two statesmen led to the conclusion of a cultural

(Continued on page 4)

LONDON LETTER

By Gregory Macdonald.

Two remarkable records were set up during the past week by Great Britain. One was Captain George Eyston's 319 miles per hour over a measured mile, on the Utah salt flats. This means that British cars have a comfortable championship over others, as the previous record breaker was Sir Malcolm Campbell. The other, even more spectacular adventure, was Mr. Clouston's flight to the Cape in 45 hours and a return journey of 5 days and 17 hours. He and his co-pilot, Mrs. Kirby - Green received a royal welcome on their return to London.

It has indeed been a week of royal welcomes. No other foreign Monarch is so near to the hearts of Londoners as King Leopold of Belgium. His popularity does not depend alone upon memories of the war when the defence of Belgium was the inspiration of British effort. He is popular for the simplicity of his own character and out of sympathy for the sorrow which has overclouded his life. Political interest was equally marked. This first State Visit of the reign of King George was of no ordinary importance, and King Leopold would not have left his country during a political crisis unless matters of supreme importance were to be discussed in London. He was magnificently entertained at Buckingham Palace, at the Guildhall and at the Foreign Office. His speeches were more than a formal flow of compliments, and at a time when economic agreements with the United States are in the air his insistence upon an approach to peace through economic adjustment caused considerable comment. The whole political situation is that King Leopold continued in London some of the exploratory conversations which Mr. Van Zeeland undertook in Washington and elsewhere at the request of European Powers.

A political session which promised to be exciting and bad-tempered is proceeding very quietly although the news from day to day is sensational enough. The negotiations for the Anglo-American Trade Agreement, discussed in the London Letter last week, were announced in the House of Commons on Thursday, with a simultaneous statement in Washington. It is commonly expected that the talks will be long drawn out, though on this point there may yet be a surprise, and the full terms of the agreement may be equally unexpected. The Washington Administration has established its ascendancy over Wall Street. The session of Congress which promised, like that of the British Parliament, to be a stormy one, shows the same signs of softening down. Both Governments will therefore be able to proceed with their sound policies: the obstructive tactics of opposition will be called off. All shades of opinion here welcome the talks—

Congress of P. O. W.



The P. O. W. Delegation before the Rossa Mausoleum.

Members of the Polish Military Organisation, known as the POW, which contributed considerably to the liberation of the country in 1918, have assembled for their first congress in Wilno. The members of the POW enjoy a particular position in Poland, as their heroic work for independence, in times when no personal profit whatever could be derived from it, gives them a certain privileged situation.

While the merits of these groups of people, who proved their patriotism in a most difficult moment, is not doubted by anyone, there is a tendency in Poland to admit to the business of government also new people, who were either too young during the war to participate in the independence movement, or had been legitimately engaged in other activities.

The whole political situation of Poland is dominated by the question: who will be the people who will collaborate with the so-called legionary camp? That the legionary camp will remain in power a long time seems quite clear, as it has filled since 1926 almost all the official posts of any importance and has ruled the country for eleven years, with a fair measure of success.

Marshal Pilsudski and after him Marshal Rydz-Smigly are the chiefs of the legionary camp. The movement of national consolidation, started by Col. Koc at the order of Marshal Rydz-

Smigly, has for its purpose the organising of a friendly collaboration between the legionary camp and the political parties, as well as all patriotically minded citizens.

The legionary group, which includes also the members of the POW, could not be described as a political party in a strict sense, though it has the appearance of one. Its creed has ever been unquestioned obedience to Marshal Pilsudski and service to Poland according to his precepts.

Naturally there are within the legionary camp men of various personal views, ranging from conservatism to socialism, but the link of a common tradition and comradeship has usually been stronger than the differences of political opinion. When Marshal Pilsudski was alive, the very existence of any such differences did not occur to anyone, so strong was the loyalty and affection inspired by his person.

After Marshal Pilsudski's death, the differences within the legionary group became accentuated and there appeared the "legionary left" and the "legionary right". One of the aims of the Consolidation movement of Col. Koc was to weld again together these groups.

The decisions of the congress of POW held in Wilno two days ago seem to indicate that this aim at least has been achieved by the Consolidation movement. The council of the ex-members of the POW declared its allegiance to the OZN (abbreviation for Col. Koc's party) and its obedience to Marshal Rydz Smigly, who made a speech on that occasion.

Marshal Rydz Smigly appealed to the ex-members of the POW, who form a very influential section of the Polish public, to leave idle quarrels and get at once to work for the greater prosperity and welfare of Poland. The Marshal used an expression which is likely to be much repeated, "Our love of Poland will be our dictator" — he said, requesting work for the country.

(ATE)

(Continued on page 2)

LONDON LETTER

(Concluded)

surprising to notice, opposition is almost dumb. Even a careless observer must conclude that the whole face of politics has changed, and it is commonsense to conclude that there has been a revolutionary change in the balance of forces over a wide area when new developments are seen to be appearing in one country after another. To the negotiations proceeding in London, Washington and Berlin add the decision of the Spanish War, the acceptance by Russia of the British Non-Intervention plan, and a very reasonable discussion by all parties in the House of Lords on the possibility of satisfying Germany's colonial claims. If two world forces were ranged in dangerous combat all during the summer, the conclusion must be drawn that one side has secured a decisive victory and that the fruits of it are quickly being gathered. The conflict has, in fact, gone on openly since 1921. The possibility presents itself that the secret war which convulsed the worlds of finance and politics is over, and the British Government is now in a position to carry out unhampered its long-term peaceful policy. The only cloud upon the political horizon is the melodramatic threat of the Cagoulards, which only here does not so far take seriously.

The political quiet allows attention to be concentrated on one of the rare epidemics affecting London. The infrequency of these scares is a tribute to the local government of one of the most congested cities in the world. Typhoid has broken out in one of the southernmost of the London suburbs, and some isolated cases have occurred in Kensington, near enough to the West End to be uncomfortable. The source may have been tracked down to a certain well, or it may be that water-cress sold in the markets is infected. So far there have been 127 cases and six deaths; and at this point the medical authorities feel that they have the situation under control. The danger is not ignored, however, of suburban daily workers in London bringing the disease up to Town with them. As the incubation period is three weeks it is not yet safe to hope that the last has been heard of the outbreak.

This week Parliament will discuss the new Coal Bill introduced by the Government after the failure of a previous attempt to find a solution to the mining problem. The royalties of between four and five thousand owners will be bought off for a total compensation of £66,450,000 and a Coal Commission will have complete control of the future development of the coal estate of the nation, with power to effect compulsory amalgamations after 1940. This measure would have been unthinkable before the War, and since the War it has been a bone of contention for years. The present Bill will have the weakening opposition of the coalowners, not on the point of compensation, which is accepted, but on the point of compulsory amalgamation. It will have the opposition of the Labour Party as a matter of form, lest credit for a Socialist measure should go to the Government. But the public administration of that which cannot be worked equitably in private hands is an aspect of socialisation on which all parties are agreed, and the Bill should pass substantially unaltered.

VIENNESE LETTER

(Concluded)

agreement between Austria and Poland, the purpose of which is an extensive exchange of cultural values. Now we can only wait till this agreement begins to bear fruit worthy of the historical traditions of the two countries.

Scarcely had a week passed since Dr. Schmidt's return from Warsaw, and hardly had the echoes of this visit died down in the press, when Vienna political circles were electrified by the sudden news of the departure of Dr. Schmidt for Berlin. According to the official communique, he merely went there to visit the Hunt-Exhibition, but there is no doubt that he might have had long talks with Goering. Unfortunately, no official communique was issued regarding these talks, which is quite in keeping with the custom of the Ballhausplatz whose silence on such occasions is becoming traditional. The lack of any official statement, unfortunately gave rise to many exaggerated suppositions and combinations. At any rate, according to the general opinion in so-called well informed circles, the two statesmen probably discussed the increasing economic difficulties and the Austrian moratorium, and also Austria's eventually taking part in the recently concluded three-power Anti-Communist pact. No doubt, they also discussed the unsatisfactory relations between the Press of both countries.

The correctness of these two suppositions might be confirmed by the following facts.

A few days after Dr. Schmidt's return from Berlin, one of the most important newspapers, "Die Neue Presse", published an article which may be considered to have been officially inspired, arguing the necessity of Austrian foreign policy to observe reticence concerning that pact; the correctness of the other hypothesis may be confirmed by the arrival in Vienna of Dr. Kepler, the vice-chief of the Press of the N. S. D. A. P.

The visit also revealed the fact that Col. Adam, chief of the Austrian Press, had said a confidential visit to Munich a few months ago. It should be added that this arrival took place a few days after a sudden attack made by the "Deutsche Diplomatische Korrespondenz" on Austria which journal was annoyed by a speech recently made by the leader of the Austrian legitimists, Baron Wiesner, which contained some disagreeable remarks about Germany. This incident was settled, but nobody doubts that this armistice will be of short duration.

And now, in order to take the reader's mind off the not very exciting details of Austrian politics, I should like to add that at the time in question, one could often see the following Polish names placarded all over Vienna. First of all that of Jan Kiepura, who attracts crowds to the opera with magnetic force — crowds which after cheering the famous singer in the opera, wait for him to exit so that this great favourite of the Viennese public can only leave the theatre thanks to the assistance of the police.

At the same time, another Polish opera star, Mme. Bandrowska — Turska gave a concert to an overcrowded house. Then the Deutsches Volkstheater, which has a full house every evening, is showing the comedy "Firma" by the well-known writer Hemar, under the title of "Reisebekanntschaft". The critics prophesy a great success for the play, and probably the management is looking forward to large returns.

Finally it is worth mentioning two Polish lecturers, who have

PRESS REVIEW

Kurier Warszawski (17 Nov.) comments an article by the Rev. Stanislaw Wawryn appearing in a publication "Belief and Life" in which the author expresses his regret that a certain section of the Polish youth has disappointed the hopes raised by his profession of religious faith made at Cegostochowa. The writer strongly condemns the acts of terrorism committed by this section saying "It must be confessed with regret that the conduct of a certain section of youth is often in gross contradiction to the principles of faith, is a crying violation not only of Christian ethics but of elementary moral feeling. And to crown all they are beginning to announce that methods of the club and the bomb should be applied not only in the name of the nation but in that of — religion and Christ."

J. K. C. has a significant article (21 Nov.) on the advantages of democratic rule which it says tends to weaken party fanaticism and fanaticism in general. It advises its readers to imitate the English, who have an inherent political culture which leads them to co-operate in large groups instead of small coteries and to cultivate moderation, sobriety and realism. "Democracy" writes the *Kurier* is in its deepest essence a system of compromise of softening and balancing contradictions. And further it says, "Whoever sincerely desires a return to democracy must cultivate in himself the spirit and ability of compromise, for democracy is nothing else but a system of compromise, of mutual bargaining, and yielding."

P. A. T. writes from Paris concerning Minister Delbos' visit to Poland quoting him as saying that France must pay the greatest attention to the existing guarantees of peace and that this is the motive of the Minister's journeys amongst which he will visit Warsaw and Bucharest. The Minister strongly opposed the position of a part of the Paris press which represents this journey as a symptom of weakness and characterized the aim of his visits as follows: "The strengthening of friendships which directly interest France, the prevention of aggressions, the helping to clear up certain questions, combating of the spirit of compulsion and violence and finally work at preparing for the future Europe when all nations will be able to enjoy the fruits of their work in peace."

Robotnik (22 Nov.) writing of the results of the Brussels conference says that it confirmed solidarity of German - Italian - Japanese fascism. It confirmed the impossibility of anti-fascist understanding with fascism. In the declaration passed at the conference the fundamental differences dividing the two were accentuated and above all the demagogic principle of the anti-communist pact was rejected. The line of separation has been fixed clearly and in agreement with reality. In *Robotnik's* opinion now acts should follow, but till now anti-fascist States have not been able to rise to acts. "This department has been left to Fascists". The same paper (23 Nov.) writes concerning Minister Delbos' proposed visit to Poland saying that French democracy has lately got much stronger and that the legend of France's weakness spread also in Poland by followers of Hitler is fast disappearing

lectured here. They are Professor Jachimewski who spoke about the personality of Chopin; and the psychologist Dr. Radwan Prąglowski who accompanies his lectures, which are always overcrowded, with most interesting experiments.

Economics and Finance

HARVEST RESULTS IN POLAND

The Polish Chief Bureau of Statistics has just published the second estimate of this year's harvests in Poland. The figures (in millions of metric quintals), which are liable to final rectification by the borough and district committees are as follows: wheat 18.4, rye 58.3, barley 13.1, oats 24.1 and potatoes 378.0. In comparison with last year and the average for the five-year period 1932 — 36 (percentage figures bracketed) the changes are as follows: wheat minus 13.6 (minus 5.5), rye minus 8.4 (minus 10.6), barley minus 6.3 (minus 8.3), oats minus 8.8 (minus 6.4), potatoes plus 10.3 (plus 19.2). This second estimate reveals higher figures than that of August 15th, the difference being for wheat 3.1 per cent more, rye 4.8 per cent more, barley 2.2 per cent more, oats 2.7 per cent more, and potatoes 18.6 per cent more. The decrease in grain crops as against last year's data are uniformly distributed over the various parts of the country, whilst there are also some vividspots that have substantially greater crops of one or the other kind than last year, and the greater yield of potatoes extends to the whole country although in various degrees. The estimates as for the 15th of Sept. of the straw yield and of the first mowing of clover hay and meadow hay are as follows (millions of metric quintals; percentage comparison with last year and with the average for the five years 1932 — 36 bracketed) straw of winter corn 127.8 (minus 24.9 per cent; minus 23.9 per cent), yield of summer corn 47.9 (minus 18.0 per cent; minus 19.3 per cent), clover hay 12.4 (minus 45.2 per cent; minus 25.0 per cent), meadow hay 52.8 (minus 12.3 per cent; minus 9.6 per cent).

RELAXING OF CURRENCY REGULATIONS

Currency restrictions were introduced in Poland later than in other countries and were never intended to be permanent. It is understood that these regulations will be relaxed soon as far as the transfer abroad of the interest on Polish investments which now have to be deposited in Polish banks or re-invested in the country; the expected new regulations will allow greater freedom in that respect.

It is hoped that this will be the first step towards a further liberalisation of the currency restrictions, but Poland cannot take the lead in these matters and she will abolish her currency restrictions completely only when the other principal Central European countries do likewise.

(ATE)

"Poland ought to stand decidedly by the side of France! In order to combat fascist plans of aggression, to strengthen European peace, to allow Poland to develop quietly. Minister Delbos will be a welcome and desired guest!"

Goniec Warszawski (22 Nov.) writes that agreement has been reached among the members of the legionist camp and that the resolutions passed at the Wilno meeting of the P. O. W. (Polish Military Organisation) have a political significance rejecting foreign models in the construction of the social and State system. Hence there follows a decided rejection of totalitarianism either class or nationalistic. State socialism was passed over. And just their attitude towards this idea would have been the most significant. The rejection of class or nationalistic policy corresponds to the slogan pronounced at the meeting of the 30th October, "without P. P. S. (Polish Socialist Party) and National Democrats". K. M.

POLAND'S FOREIGN TRADE PREDOMINANTLY SEA-BORNE.

During the first three quarters of the current year 11,976,000 tons of goods were handled in overseas traffic at the two seaports of the Polish custom area; the figures for the corresponding periods of 1936 and 1935 were 9,504,000 and 9,201,000 tons respectively. For the periods under review, overseas exports declined to 6,545,000 tons from 7,908,000 tons in 1936 and 7,917,000 tons in 1935, while there was a considerable advance in overseas imports, viz. from 1,293,000 tons in 1935 to 1,587,000 tons in 1936, and to 2,331,000 tons in 1937. The share of the ports of Gdynia and Danzig in Poland's foreign trade during the first nine months of the present year was 78.7 per cent as to the volume, and 67.0 per cent as to the value of goods handled; the corresponding percentages for 1935 and 1936 were 77.1 and 73.8 as regards volume and 65.2 and 63.4 respectively in points of value.

NEW POSSIBILITIES FOR FOREIGN INVESTMENT

The relaxation of the currency restrictions with regard to the transfer abroad of interest on foreign investments which has been brought about by a decree of the Minister of Finance, has made a good impression in financial circles.

The "*Kurier Polski*", organ of industry, writes that the possibility of guaranteeing a full service of new loans from foreign creditors should attract foreign investors to Poland.

The "*Polska Zbrojna*" remarks that as the discount rate of the Bank of Poland is higher than those of the other larger emission Banks of Europe and North America, capital from other countries may find better returns in Poland than elsewhere.

The "*Gazeta Handlowa*" (Journal of Commerce) writes that the liberalisation of the currency regulations will undoubtedly have a beneficial effect on credit relations with other countries. It adds that it is thanks to a satisfactory improvement of the situation of the Bank of Poland and notably to an increase of its gold holding that such a measure became possible. The general permission for a free service of credits, granted after the date of November 19th 1937, is a step towards a wider liberalisation of the currency regulations, leading towards a complete return to the freedom of the movement of funds, which is the natural condition. (ATE)

SHIP TRAFFIC AT THE PORT OF DANZIG

Entrances at Danzig in October comprised 537 units aggregating 345,524 m. r. tons, and clearances comprised 533 units aggregating 344,899 net reg. tons. The figures for October 1936 were: entrances 502 vessels (aggregating 287,918 net reg. tons) with clearances 513 vessels (aggregating 291,553 net reg. tons).

NEW SHIPPING LINE FROM GDYNIA TO SOUTH AMERICA

The Johnson Line of Stockholm is to inaugurate a new regular monthly service in both directions between Gdynia and the seaports of Venezuela, Columbia, Ecuador, Peru and Chile. The first vessel to sail from Gdynia this month will be the new fast m. s. "Chile", which is expected to reach Valparaiso within about twenty-five days.

Please pay overdue
subscription to
P K O 29898

WHY DID THE POLES REVOLT IN 1831

By Wanda Peszke

The Napoleonic wars found Poland three times partitioned and nominally non-existent. Nevertheless a Polish army was formed in Italy by General Dąbrowski and followed faithfully Napoleon's eagles, hoping thus to fight out freedom for his country.

The defeat of Prussia, ended by the Treaty of Tilsit in 1809, restored a small bit of Poland under the name of the Duchy of Warsaw. Though only a vestige of the old empire, it was nearly twice as large as Switzerland of today, and being politically perfectly independent, could instantly flare up with patriotic endeavour and make great strides in social, economic and intellectual progress.

The seven years' life of the Duchy is a bright and honourable page in Polish political life. Unfortunately, it was short-lived; Napoleon fell; reaction reigned supreme and, in 1815, the Congress of Vienna divided Poland for the fourth time.

The most ancient part of the Duchy with Poznań and Toruń went to join the other Polish possessions of the king of Prussia. Kraków became a free but strictly neutral city.

The Duchy, though losing important cities and land, was promised national representation and institutions and, as "Kingdom of Poland," was to be a separate unit under the rule of Tsar Alexander I, as its King.

This last acquisition of the Tsar was legal from the point of view of international law. Poland was not asked at the Congress for her opinion on the matter, but, at the same time, she did not contradict the resolutions.

Alexander, even before his final encounter with Napoleon took place, time upon time had deceived his Polish subjects as to his intention of recreating Poland up to the rivers Dnieper and Berezyna, and had written to Kościuszko taking upon himself this solemn duty. Now, he spoke at the debates of the Congress of the "Crime of Poland's partitions" and scattered promises far and wide. He was intelligent, well educated, liberal in his views; that he was a typical Russian despot at heart was not yet obvious; it was not unnatural that Poles did begin to hope that their country would come to life again.

The constitution of the new Kingdom, worked out by eminent Polish statesmen was carefully perused by the Tsar, who made in it many changes, giving scope to the autocratic rule of the sovereign. Despite these alterations it remained one of the most advanced and liberal of European constitutions. For instance, the right of voting was extended to about a hundred thousand citizens, whereas France had at that time only eighty thousand voters, so, considering the ratio of population of the two countries, the Kingdom had a nearly ten times more extensive suffrage.

Alexander arrived for a three weeks' stay for the inauguration of the constitution, signed by him on November 27, 1815. He made himself charming to all, gave definite promises and asked for patience and trust in a most important matter for Poles, viz. the fate of the rest of Poland, the extensive Eastern lands, forming one country with her since A. D. 1386 and now separated already since more than two decades.

The falseness of Alexander I showed itself in his first act in the new Kingdom. Instead of nominating as governor of the new State, the old friend of his boyhood, prince Adam Czartoryski—an unblemished, honourable man, whom Poles would have received gladly and who would have been a link between him and his new subjects—Alexander left

as his substitute a totally different man, who was to enjoy in his absence a nearly royal authority. Being afraid of an independent and eminent personality, he chose one who, exalted to such a high position, would be a tool in his hands, a Pole indifferent to the affairs of the country and having no ties in it. Such a man he found in General Zajęzek, apparently an imposing old veteran, but in reality, a French condottiere, who after the fall of Napoleon changed suddenly into a Russian underling. As governor, during one of the first councils of the Board of Administration, he said: "I have nothing from the Polish nation, I don't owe it anything, all that I have is either from Napoleon or from His Imperial Majesty the Tsar, thus I am his and not the nation's servant, and shall fulfil strictly all his commands".

With such a governor the two other henchmen of Alexander could do whatever they wished. They were the Grand Duke Constantine and Nowosilcow.

When the Tsar, after the battle of Leipzig, met in Paris for the first time with the Polish legions, after assuring them of his esteem, he promised them a better future for their country and gave them his younger brother, the Grand Duke Constantine as provisional Commander in Chief. Public opinion, voiced by Prince Czartoryski, demanded Kościuszko at the head and anyways expected a Polish Chief. Nevertheless, the Grand Duke arrived in Warsaw already in 1814 and remained there until he was expelled from it in 1830.

Contemporaries describe and his portraits show a very unpleasant face. On huge square shoulders, a short thick neck, choking in the stiff "halstuck" of his uniform. A big, fat face, with a nose so short, that only the nostrils were visible, bristly white eyebrows, overhanging small sharp eyes, a harsh, grating voice, impetuous movements. He was grandson of the depraved Catherine II and second son of Paul I.

The new commander in chief had much common sense, wit and to a certain extent a rude frankness of speech. If a person's opinion was dear to him, he tried to hide his misdoings before him, he got fond in his way of people and wished to be liked by those under him.

All these good qualities were completely cancelled by the bad ones. He was a despot, for whom not even his own rules existed, who obeyed only his momentary mood. He loved flattery and adulation and sycophants could be sure of managing him.

He came to the Polish army with his mentality of a corporal, with his belief in rules of dull routine discipline upheld by bastinado, minute drill and with a perfect lack of understanding of the chivalrous side of the military profession. He came to an army, composed of magnificent Napoleonic soldiers, led by officers, who would have been the flower of any army. After their late chief and hero, Prince Joseph Poniatowski, who kept discipline only by appealing to the men's honour and patriotism, these perfect regiments got under the command of a man, who cared only whether every shining button was in its place on the uniform, whether the horses had their hoofs well blackened, and whose ideal was a perfect drill at a review. He hated war, because he was a coward, and felt he had no capacities as a general, and "because uniforms got dirty"; for the same reason, he never cared for manoeuvres in the open country, only for the reviews in the "Plac Saski"; those famous reviews to which often



Jan Roson

Review on Plac Saski (now Piłsudski Square)

distinguished guests came from abroad. He wanted from his soldiers only a mechanical exactitude, and every act which rose above this, even e. g. reading anything else than the "Military Regulations" was counted by him as a misdemeanour.

The monstrous change and trampling of all its traditions that the army had to undergo may be better understood, if we bear in mind the words of the military regulations, which were still in force from the time of the Duchy of Warsaw: "Every officer proved to have struck his subordinate (the following cases excepted: in his own defence or wishing to check a panic before the enemy, or prevent the wounded and the dead from being stripped naked...) will lose his rank, be punished by a year's imprisonment and will be unable to obtain any other degree in the national army". So also in the rules issued by the Military Committee, we read: "Offensive or passionate treating of a soldier during his schooling is most strictly forbidden. Brutal roughness is generally the proof of one's own lack of ability, and ruins the point of honour, which ought to be the soldier's religion. Negligence, unwillingness, disobedience ought to be punished; punishment improves a man, whereas hurtful acts make him indignant".

Accustomed to Russian life and conditions the grand Duke never tried to check his bursts of temper, he even found an abnormal pleasure in breaking men, in

humiliating them in their own opinion. One after another—forty—nine altogether—young officers took their life, after having been insulted by Constantine before the eyes of the army in the Plac Saski. Older and more independent men, nearly all the old and famous generals and many others resigned. Those officers who remained, either could not afford throwing up the army from pecuniary motives or had conformed with the Constantine system and became the obedient servants of the Grand Duke.

This system was very unfavourable towards the harmony which in general existed in the Polish army. The Grand Duke's famous discipline was not the natural fruit of obeying the law and respecting one another, but was the outcome of fear.

To the weakening of discipline helped in a considerable measure the forming of a secret police and the drawing into it of representatives of all ranks of the military hierarchy. At the head of the police stood General A. Rozniecki, and hand in hand with him was Prince Adam Wirttemberg. Documents, found later by the revolutionists, showed there were on the list of the secret police many soldiers in active service and old ones, also subalterns, cadets, even some officers. The Grand Duke knew what happened not only in each company, but even the petty details of home life of his men. His paid informers brought him the news of some happenings often before they had

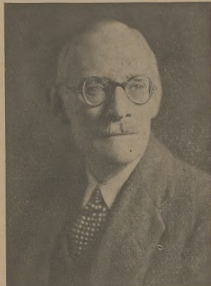
come to the knowledge of the captain.

In his continual fear of revolt, the Grand Duke spread a network of secret police over the whole country. There were several kinds of secret police, independent of, and controlling one another. Spying, denunciation and insinuation were rampant. A subordinate spied on his officer, an official spied on his chief, a servant on his master, a mistress on her lover, a wife on her husband. People became suspicious were afraid of speaking openly even to their nearest, no one could be sure whether next day he would not find himself in prison.

The name of Nowosilcow was mentioned above together with that of the Grand Duke. This barbarous executioner of the Wilno boys, with Mickiewicz in their midst, Commissaire of the Tsar by the government of the Kingdom of Poland, supervised the whole political life not only of the Kingdom, but at the same time of the lands acquired by the former partitions. Nothing important could be done without his consent, and, though a drunkard and profligate, he was extremely active and let no occasion pass which could injure Poland. Nosing everywhere revolts, he knew how to denounce schoolboys' debating clubs as important political antigovernment activities, and fill prisons with Polish youth. Where he could not denounce, he insinuated and provoked, and incessantly set Alexander and Constantine against Poland.

(to be continued)

MOUNT EVEREST PIONEER IN WARSAW



Mr. Hugh Rutledge

The visit to Poland of Mr. Hugh Rutledge, the leader of several expeditions to Mount Everest, which was arranged by the British Council in conjunction with the Polish Institute for Collaboration with Foreign Countries, ably presided over by Dr. Henryk Grube, proved to be the most successful English lecture tour arranged in Warsaw.

Mr. Rutledge, who arrived on Sunday the 21st November gave his lecture on the Monday evening at the Maximum Hall of the Warsaw University to an enthusiastic audience of some 200 persons, of whom half were members of the Polish Tatra Society and the Polish High Peaks Society. The lecture, which dealt with the difficulties with which the British expeditions of 1933, 1936 and earlier years had been faced was followed with rapt attention by the hearers in view of the fact that a Polish expedition to Mount Everest is contemplated in 1938 or 1939. In conversation Mr. Rutledge explained that his Polish audience were the best informed technically on all aspects of high climbing that he had encountered on his tours and expressed the belief that the practical experience and keenness of the members of the High Peaks club were such as to give a Polish expedition a good chance of success.

The success of this visit constitutes a favourable augury for future Anglo-Polish cultural visits and is largely due to the wholehearted co-operation of the Polish Institute for Collaboration with Foreign Countries, the two Tatra Clubs, the British Council, British Embassy, and numerous volunteer helpers.

STUDENTS ORGANISATIONS

The Minister of Education issued new regulations concerning student organisations. Associations can be formed for scientific, self-help, educational, religious, social, cultural, sporting, artistic or philanthropic purposes, as well as for intellectual collaboration with other nations. Political activity is to be excluded from these associations.

As a rule only students from one school can be members of any such association. Student associations cannot be affiliated to other organisations without the permission of the educational authorities.

Every student association will have a curator, chosen among the professors, who will exercise a certain degree of control over its activity.

The membership of student associations can be conditioned by a certain standard of attainment in study, provenance from a certain part of the country, or considerations of religion and nationality, if the statute of the association provides for it.

The main purpose of the new regulation is to calm down the excessive political activity of the students, which led to frequent disturbances and prevented normal study in the universities. (ATE)

Theatre and Music

WALACY SIE DOM (THE HOUSE IS FALLING) (Teatr Mały)

Maria Morozowicz Szczepkowska is an authoress who habitually works out her themes with the utmost realism, amounting almost to brutality. She does not fear to shed a glaring light on any situation, however cruel or ruthless. At all costs she must have the crude, uncompromising truth. These methods, (already applied in her best-known play, *THE CASE OF MONICA*), are continued in *THE HOUSE IS FALLING* — a study of the land-owning class in modern Poland.



Maria Morozowicz Szczepkowska

Granted the author's temperament, it must be admitted that her system is apt to turn pink into red, and grey into a tragic black, but notwithstanding frequent exaggeration of this kind, her ideas are in general well-directed, and her powers of penetration into situation and character are excellent. If the edge of her observation is a little too sharp, it is nevertheless fundamentally just.

The theme of her new play recalls Tchekov's *Cherry Orchard*. Just as in this famous work the Russian author predicted the end of the Russian land-owner, Maria Morozowicz — Szczepkowska now foresees the inevitable failure and collapse of the entire caste of Polish landowners — those inhabitants of falling houses.

We are therefore invited to inspect the family of Rakuski, whose bluest of blue blood is mingled with that of the most aristocratic families in Europe. But who are the Rakuskis of today? A tribe of degenerated Rakuski senior — head of the family, is an old man whose only diversion is to hide piles of money in his mattress, like an ignorant peasant. He is not interested in the estate, nor in the house that is falling to ruin about his ears. He will probably lose all his money to his unscrupulous new wife, who was once his nurse.

The son, Janek, is a stupid "young master" thirty years old. He has no feeling for the family soil and tradition, but dreams of marrying a rich girl to whom he will give his aristocratic name and — it should be added — his very inadequate intelligence and deplorable education. There is no room in Janek's head for anything but daydreams about romance, pleasure, and his father's death (which will bring him money and an inheritance).

His sister, Ludwika, has sincerity and a heart, but no energy. She can only despair, with resignation. The second sister, Helen, remains an old maid, but runs away from the estate and goes to live and work in the city.

Such are the Rakuskis, representative Polish landowners, seen through the eyes of Maria Morozowicz — Szczepkowska. Having beheld them, we are invited to accept the verdict of their cousin, Barski, who declares that the soil must return into the hands of those who love it and work upon it, i.e. the peasants.

If this play were true in all its details, we should now be witnessing the most tragic moment in the history of Polish landowners. However, the situation depicted in *THE HOUSE IS FALLING* can hardly be called typical. It does, however, provide an interesting, up-to-the-minute, though—provoking play, which indicates clearly enough that many of our landowners really deserve the failure of their houses. But at the same time the talented authoress has forgotten that the landowning class still comprises

many people who are far indeed from degeneration, who love the soil, work it hard, and whose desire is to remain on the land. Considered as a play, it has high literary value. The action is built up and brought to its inevitable dénouement with a great deal of talent, and the interest of the audience increases with each scene. By way of criticism it may perhaps be said that the family cousin, Barski, too often plays the rôle of a merely passive spectator of the Rakuski misfortunes, and seems always to be acting as adviser and father — confessor to all the members of the family in turn.

The producer is Zbigniew Ziemiński, who makes the most of the tragical and disagreeable atmosphere of the Rakuski home. He also plays the part of Janek Rakuski, which must now be reckoned one of this actor's best rôles.

Rakuski senior also finds an able interpreter in Bogusław Samborski, who very suggestively portrays the avarice, bodily weakness, and amative passion of an old man. The tragic figure of Ludwika was extremely moving in the discreet but powerful interpretation of Zofia Małmowska, an actress who has great reserves of dramatic feeling.

The cast also includes Janina Niczewska, a newcomer to the Warsaw stage, who displays beauty, talent, and a some mannerism; Irena Borowska, Aniela Rolańska, Gustaw Buszynski and Stanisław Grolicki. The settings are by Stanisław Siliwinski. Arno.

CONCERT OF SZYMANOWSKI'S MUSIC

The Society for the Cultivation of Modern Music gave a concert entirely devoted to Szymanowski at the Conservatoire on Thursday the 18th inst. This is the first of a cycle of Szymanowski concerts the object of which is to familiarize the public with the work of Poland's greatest musician of modern times. The programme was wisely chosen calculated to lead the audience step by step to a deeper understanding and consequently love of this most subtle and intricate music which grows on the hearer the more often he listens to it. Mme Rabecwicz played with her accustomed artistry two preludes and three flat minor etudes as well as an early sonata written in 1910 and rewarded with the first prize at the Lwów contest for compositions. It is a work full of youthful fire and enthusiasm. Mr. Janowski sang with feeling and understanding the "Muezzin songs" which contrast so strongly in their oriental colouring with the "Kurpie folk songs" in which the composer preserves the original folklore character. The sonata for Violin and Piano was admirably performed by Mr. and Mrs. Ochlewski. K. M.

AUSTRALIAN LETTER

By Helen Heney

GENERAL ELECTIONS

Although not all the results are in — our scattered population and general movement within the Commonwealth make the postal and absentee votes no light item in a country of compulsory voting — there are not enough in doubt to affect the present standing of the parties. Of the two not yet decided, expert opinion expects one to go against the present sitting member, Federal Minister for Defence, in favour of his Labour opponent, while the second, Adelaide, is still in doubt. The present position is, for the Lower House,

United Australia Party . . .	29
United Country Party . . .	16
Labor Party	29

In the Senate, where the chief interest of the election now centres, it looks as though there will be Labor successes in all states except South Australia. It may well be that the Government will have a minority in the Senate, though a majority in the House of Representatives, which would create an interesting political situation. This position, however, will not arise till next June, during which time the Government will be able to review its position.

Newspapers to the contrary, the elections have been quiet and little general interest was aroused. Various difficulties in our system combine to make our elections curious, if not a little comic. The existence of only twoparties, and the endorsed party candidate system tend to deprive the voting of any close rapport with the wishes of the mass of the people, and make it hard for an independent man to stand with any chance of success. Thus, while speeches are being made and vigorous warfare of words goes on prior to polling, the electors usually concern themselves with really pressing events, like the famous Melbourne Cup, and then, unable to express themselves with flexibility, vote the whole ticket of one or other party, or record an informal vote, which is the only form of protest allowed them. The number of informal votes from a population without illiteracy is in itself a sign of the times. Another characteristic feature of Australian elections is the steady alternation of parties: better the evil less familiar than the customary evil, so every election, out the government goes, or as in this case, the balance swings even till gradually it tilts over in favour of the party in opposition.

This election was fought on bogies: Labor accused the Government of intentions to bring in conscription and involve Australia in foreign affairs, on which points the party was divided, while the Government, realising that it would certainly be defeated if it fought on domestic issues, made security and imperial co-operation his watch word; the bogey implicit in a Labor victory was the fear attached to the name of that member of the party who, as Premier, threatened to take over the banks and repudiate the interest on foreign loans. That fear remembered from depression years, still had influence over the ordinary voter.

In any case, now the two houses will have to settle down to arrange the anomalies of their respective positions. Another election in about six months time seems quite probable.

Warsaw Amusements

THEATRES

NARODOWY. "Dojswie" by Predro, or "The man who was Thursday" by Chesterton.
POLSKI. "Galazka rozmarynu" by Nowakowski.
MALY. "Walczy sie dom" by Morozowicz-Szczepkowska.
NOWY. "Skiz" by Zapolska.
MALICKI. "Maria Stuart" by J. Slowacki.
ATENEUM. "Panna Maliczewska" by Zapolska.
KAMERALNY. "Christian" by Noe.
LENI. "An Armenian from Beyruth" by Siedlecki.
NOWOSCI. "Jacob and Esau".
MUSIC.
TEATR WIELKI — OPERA.
Saturday: Programme unknown at time of going to press.
Sunday:
Tuesday:
Wednesday:
Thursday:
Friday:

KONSERWATORIUM

Monday: 8.15 — Recital of Gabora Rejtó, Hungarian Violinist.
Wednesday: 8.15 — Piano recital of Frederic Portnoj.
Saturday: 8.15 — Recital of Agi Jambor, famous Hungarian pianist.
FILHARMONIA.
Sunday: Early Matinée Dir. J. Oziminski. Piano — Hanna Dicksteinówna.
3 — Beethoven's 9th Symphony
Tuesday: Hermann Abendroth.
Friday: 8 — Symphony Concert; joined orchestras of the Filharmonia and the Polish Radio Dir. Grzegorz Fitelberg.

MUSICAL SHOWS

CYRULIK WARSZAWSKI. "Ktoś z nas zwiadowa!"
TEATR 8.15. "Virtuozus Sussanna".
WIELKA REWIA. "Honey-moon trip".
MAK QUI PRO QUO at Ziemiańska — "Upstairs".

ART.

I. P. S. Paintings by Kramczyński Rycharski, Simon-Pietkiewicz and Winner
ZACHĘTA. Ruszczye Memorial Exhibition.
NATIONAL MUSEUM. Monuments of Marshal Piłsudski.
"Egyptian Excavations"

CINEMAS

ATLANTIC. D. Durbin and L. Skowik in "A hundred Men and one Girl". (Good American musical)
BALTYK. Gable and Loy in "Women Only". (Amusing Comedy)
CAPITOL. Barszczewski in "The Quack". (Interesting Polish drama)
CASINO. Eggert and Klepura in "Gypsy King". (Amusing German musical)
COLOSSEUM. "The Magioli Line" (French Spy Film).
EUROPA. Rainer and Tracy in "Dead End". (High quality sociological drama).
IMPERIAL. Brent and Roberts in "Gods Country and Women". (Curious/famous novel filmed).
PALLADIUM. Mac Donald and Eddy in "When the Lilacs blossom". (Average American musical)
PAN. "Trojka hultajska" (Polish farce)
RIALTO. Danielle Darrieux in "Mademoiselle ma Mère". (Delightful French comedy)
ROMA. Anna Neagle in "Queen Victoria". (The history of a dynasty)
STYLOWY. Barszczewski and Wiklinska in "Dziwaczka z Nowolipki". (Good rendering of the well known novel)
STUDIO. Wessely in "Her Greatest Error". (Austrian drama).
ŚWIATOWID. Dymysz in "Niedorajda" (Polish farcical comedy).
VICTORIA. Sessue Hayakawa in "Yoshiwara". (Doktora's novel).
NOTE: In response to numerous requests we have introduced a new system of film noting which we hope will satisfy our readers.
Starred cinemas play at 5, 7, 9, others at 6, 8, 10.

BRITISH PASSPORT CONTROL OFFICE

UJAZDOWSKA 18, WARSAW

The following persons are entitled to receive visas or immigration certificates for Palestine:

№ 70

No. of certificate	NAME	Age	Category	Last date of visa	Admission to Palestine (not later than)	Address
2345	F. 32 RABINOW Uda	27	G	—	31.12.37	Nalewki 40/6 Warsaw.
2397	F. 23 CUKIER Kaja	24	G	—	31.12.37	Stojnicka, Dist. Kielecki.
2377	F. 101 BURAK Eitel	—	G	—	31.12.37	Zduńska Wola, Zielenieckiego 2.
2345	F. 60 LAGALBER Moszek	36	G	—	31.12.37	Warsaw.
2396	SKULIER Szymon	40	A(I)	9.2.38	9.3.38	Siniawski.
	" Sonia	41				
	" Lejba	14				
	" Mowsza	13				

EXTENSION OF SHORT WAVE BROADCASTING.

In view of the satisfactory response from abroad called forth by the activity of the SPW and SPD short wave stations, their programmes will be extended. From the 29-th instant they will broadcast for two hours every day, between 12 p. m. and 2 a. m. and for three hours on Sundays and holidays, between 12 p. m. and 3 a. m.

The programmes of SPW (22 metres wavelength) and SPW (26 metres wavelength) are Polish, except the news, which broadcast also in English. The programmes are destined particularly for Polish emigrants abroad, from whom the Polish Broadcasting Company receives an average of fifty letters a day.

(ATE)

French teacher has some free hours in the morning for lessons excellent references tel. 323-50 till 10.

ANGLO BALTIC LINE

S.S. "Baltrover"

From Gdynia:

9th, 23rd December

From LONDON:

2nd, 16th December

Cable class 27, 0.0.

return 25% reduction.

For further particulars, apply to
UNITED BALTIC CORPORATION, LTD.
Warsaw, Kredytowa 18, tel. 299-30

Bank Amerykański

w Polsce Sp. Akc.

Królewska 3 — Warsaw

All kinds of Banking and Foreign Exchange business transacted Bonds and Stocks bought and sold.

Safe deposit vault

equipped according to the most modern technical requirements. Private Safes from 6 zł. a quarter.